Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Available knowledge indicates that human milk optimally enhances the physical growth and development, brain development, and well-being of the infant by providing the best possible nutrition, protection against specific infections and allergies, and promoting maternal and infant bonding; and,

Whereas, Breastfeeding is recognized as the preferred method by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Dietetic Association, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National WIC Association; and,

Whereas, Breastfeeding is identified by the U.S. Surgeon General as a high priority in the year 2010 Healthy People objectives, with a goal of increasing to at least 75 percent the proportion of mothers who breastfeed their infants in the early postpartum period and to at least 50 percent those who continue to breastfeed until the infant is six months of age; and,

Whereas, In South Dakota, a coalition has been formed to promote breastfeeding in the state with representation from the Department of Health, the Cooperative Extension Service, the Indian Tribal Organization WIC Programs, Northern Plains Healthy Start, Early Headstart, La Leche League, Sioux Valley Hospital, Avera McKennan Hospital, Rapid City Regional Hospital, SDSU College of Nursing, USD School of Medicine, Sacred Heart Medical Clinic, Avera St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen, practicing physicians, and independent lactation consultants; and,

Whereas, The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action, in conjunction with the World Health Organization and UNICEF, has proclaimed August 1-7, 2003, as the eleventh annual World Breastfeeding Week:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2003, as

WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK

in South Dakota, and urge all citizens to join in supporting breastfeeding as a high priority for healthier infants and families in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State